IN SENATE.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.

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On motion of Mr. LEWIS, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill for supplying deficiencies in appropriations for certain objects for the year 1846.
The bill was reported back from the Committee on Finance, to which it had been referred, with certain amendments. The amendments had all been concurred in except the last one, which was in relation to the expenditures of the Territorial

which was in relation to the expenditures of the Territorial Legislature of Florida.

Mr. WESTCOTT replied to the observations made by the Senator from Maine (Mr. Evans) on a former day, stating that the deficiency now asked to be supplied arose very naturally and necessarily under the operation of the laws of Congress, which permitted the continuance of a session of the Territorial Legislature for seventy-five days; and it was found necessary, under the peculiar circumstances, on one occasion, for the Legislature to sit during the whole of that period, although appropriation had only been made by Congress for sixty days. That was one source whence the arrearages arose, but another and a greater was from there being a Territorial Senate allowed, for which no appropriation had been made. The appropriation was opposed by Messrs. EVANS and HUNTINGTON, and advocated by Mr. YULEE.

Mr. EVANS moved to strike out the words "for deficien-

MUNTINGTON, and advocated by Mr. YULEE.

Mr. EVANS moved to strike out the words "for deficiencies in appropriations," and insert "for expenses ordered by the Territorial Legislature of Florida beyond the appropriations made by Congress;" and to add also at the end, "the accounts for which shall be audited and adjusted by the proper officer of the Treasury Department."

The amendments were agreed to, and the clause, as amended, was adorted.

ed, was adopted.
Mr. LEWIS proposed the following amendment to the
bill: "For salary of the Commissioner, to reside in China,
from the 1st of April to the 30th June, 1845, \$1,250."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. EVANS moved to insert an appropriation, which was originally reported in the bill by the Committee of Ways and Means in the House, but which failed to be adopted there, for payment of a balance due to Thomas P. Jones for making experiments for the presenting of the property. boilers, \$2,250.

boilers, \$2,250.

The amendment was adopted—Yeas 16, nays 13.

Mr. EVANS then moved to strike out so much of the appropriation as relates to the Texan volunteers.

He made the motion, he said, with a view of eliciting information which he had called for in various ways, and which he had been as yet unable to obtain. He wished to know if there was any law which authorized the President to accept the services of volunteers under any circumstances. He knew of none. And he believed it would be found to be the first instance, since the formation of our Government when first instance since the formation of our Government when the President had undertaken to accept or receive into the army of the United States any force which a previous law had not authorized. In case of invasion, or imminent danger of invasion, or of insurrection, the President was authorized to call into service for a period of three months any portion of the militia of the United States; but this was any portion of the militia of the United States; but this was a very different thing from accepting the service of volunteers. The militia composed the body of the country, and were not very likely to be drawn into improper enterprises; but if the power te increase the army by incorporating into it volunteers existed, where was the use of having any law on the subject? The President might at his pleasure increase the army to any extent. And they would be met, he supposed, with the argument, as usual on other occasions, that these men have been employed, they have rendered ser-

reach any to any extent. And they would be met, he supposed, with the argument, as usum on their occasions, that these men have been employed, they have rendered services, and they must be paid.

Mr. CASS replied briefly. He did not perceive the distinction between militia and volunteers. The limitation of the term of service to three months, he apprehended, was no limitation of the period of service which should be required in public easignecies, but a limitation of individual service. If A B were called out to serve, a could not to serve, and the value of the volunteers to he output the country.

When the services were the the President would be all libertly, and to the country.

When the president would be all libertly, and the work of the law were that the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might call out the militia from such State as was most convenient. He desired to know it, under this law, the President might will be such to such as a convenient of the such as a c the President should send or raise troops for her protection.

Troops were called for, and very properly. They volunteered, and they served; and they have, as yet, received no pay. It was only a matter of justice and right that they should be paid.

The bill was then reported to the Sonate. Mr. EVANS, in relation to the item in the bill for supplying a deficiency in the salary of the Commissioner to China, inquired if that mission was still in existence.

Mr. ALLEN replied that he had made no special inquiry

in relation to the matter, but he believed it was still in existence, and that Mr. Everett, who had returned on leave,
would soon depart for his destination.

Mr. ARCHER observed that Mr. Everett was not on leave

exactly, but had been detained in consequence of the state of his bealth. The amendments were concurred in, and the bill ordered to

a third reading.

It was then read a third time and passed.

THE SUB-TREASURY.

Mr. WEBSTER rose and said : Mr. President, I daily re-

on it then.

Mr. WESTCOTT. I object to the withdrawal of this resolution, because I desire the vote of the Senate upon it by ayes and noes, as a precedent. I regard the principle involved in it as highly important. I am opposed to its adoption, and hope the Senate will reject it by a decisive vote.

What is the case 'Congress, in making the annual appropriations for the contingent expenses of our foreign intercourse, allows a fund of five thousand dollars, commonly designated as "the secret service fund," to be yearly expended by the Executive officers; and by the general act of May, 1810, the only voucher for the disbursement of this fund, where the President, in his judgment, is of opinion that the particulars of the expenditure should not be made public, is (as is provided by the act) the certificate of the President of such disbursement, without stating for what specific purpose it is made, or to whom made. such disbursement, without stating for what specific purpose t is made, or to whom made.

Mr. W. said he believed all our Presidents have caused to

And the restor.

We HERTER was and will. Mr. Presiden, I day by the company of th be used more or less of the secret service fund; and Mr. W. said he would not suffer himself to doubt or suspect that every one of them had not done so properly, judiciously, and especially with the most patriotic motives. Mr. W. said he should feel ashamed of himself if he could be induced to imagine that any American President had been guilty of the

nays were ordered, and, being taken, resulted as follows:
YEA—Mr. Turney.
NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Archer, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Barrow, Benton, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Thos. Clayton, John M. Clayton, Colquitt, Corwin, Davis, Dickinson, Dix, Evans, Fairfield, Greene, Haywood, Houston, Huntington, Jarnagin, Jenness, Johnson, of Louisiana, Lewis, McDuffie, Mangum, Miller, Morehead, Niles, Pearce, Pennybacker, Phelps, Sevier, Simmons, Speight, Upham, Webster, Westeott, Woodbridge—44.
So the resolution was rejected.

So the resolution was rejected.

substituted.

Mr. BERRIEN said that the amendment of the Senate

Mr. BERRIEN said that the amendment of the Senate to the original resolution of the House was to insert the following: "And that the attention of the Governmenth of both countries may be the more eernestly and immediately directed to renewed efforts for the amicable settlement of all the differences in respect to the said territory."

The House having amended the amendment of the Senate by striking out the words, "immediately directed to renewed efforts for the amicable settlement;" substituting therefor the words, "directed to the importance of the speedy adjustment." the Committee of Conference had agreed to strike out from the word "importance," inclusive, and to insert "direct the adoption of all proper measures for the amicable adjustment of

adoption of all proper measures for the amicable adjustment of all disputes in respect to said territory."

Mr. CAMERON said he should vote for the report of the committee, and, before he did so, he wished to say a word or two in explanation of his vote.

Mr. C. said he was in favor of a plain notice, and on every vote sending the said that the said is a said to say a word or two in explanation of his vote.

with the resolution. The PRESIDING OFFICER observed that the Senate of the should voice to withdraw the resolution and served of the arguments and principles than he would do by voting against his own resolution. The PRESIDING OFFICER observed that the Senate of the should withdraw the resolution only by the two states of the should withdraw the resolution only by the two states of the should withdraw the resolution only by the state of the st

sian line begins, at 54° 40′; but he did not think this the proper time or place to argue the title. It could be better done by the Executive in arranging a treaty or insisting upon our rights. He had done so in the published correspondence. When a treaty should be agreed on by the negotiators of the two countries, the Senate could revise their acts. This course Mr. C. thought would have been more respectful to the President, and in the end better for the country. But as the defeat of the present notice would, in his opinion, be a defeat of all notice during the present session of Congress, he should vote for it, without meaning to commit himself in favor of any treaty which should not secure to the United States the whole of our just rights in Oregon.

treaty which should not secure to the United States the whole of our just rights in Oregon.

On the question of concurring in the report, the yeas and nays were ordered, and, being taken, resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messra. Archer, Ashley, Atherton, Bagby, Barrow, Benton, Berrien, Calboun, Cameron, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Colquitt, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis, Dix, Evans, Greene, Haywood, Houston, Huntington, Jarnagun, Johnson, of Maryland, Johnson, of Louisiana, Lewis, McDuffie, Mangum, Miller, Morchead, Niles, Pearce, Pennybacker, Phelps, Rusk, Sevier, Simmons, Speight, Turney, Upham, Webster, Woodbridge, Yulee—42.

NAYS—Messra. Allen, Atchison, Breese, Bright, Cass, Dickinson, Fairfield, Jenness, Semple, Westcott—10.

and heretolore uniformly preserved, would be subversive of the very purpose for which the law was enacted, and might be productive of the most disastrous consequences. The expenditures of this confidential character, it is believed, were never before sought to be made public; and I should greatly apprehend the consequences of establishing a precedent which would render such disclosures hereafter inevitable.

I am fully aware of the strong and correct public feeling which exists throughout the country against secrety of any kind in the administration of the Uovernment, and especially in reference to public expenditures; yet our foreign negotiations are wisely and properly confined to the knowledge of the Executive during their pendency. Our laws require the accounts of every particular expenditure to be rendered and publicly settled at the Treasury Department. The single exception which exists is, not that the amount embraced under Presidents' certificates shall be withheld from the public, but merely that the items of which these are composed shall not be divulged. To this extent, and no further, is secrecy observed. The laudable vigilance of the people in regard to all the expenditures of the Government, as well as a sense of duty on the part of the President, and a desire to retain the good opinion of his fellow-citizens, will prevent any sum expended from being accounted for by the President's certificate, unless in cases of urgent necessity. Such certificates have therefore been resorted to but seldom throughout our past history.

For my own part, I have not caused any account whatever to be settled on a Presidential certificate. I have had no occasion rendering it necessary, in my judgment, to make such a certificate; and it would be an extreme case which would ever induce me to exercise this authority; yet, if such a case should arise, it would be my daty to assume the responsibility devolv-

induce me to exercise this authority; yet, if such a case should arise, it would be my duty to assume the responsibility devolv-

been closed, have been settled upon regular vouchers, as all ofther public accounts are settled at the Treasury.

It may be alleged that the power of impeachment belongs to the House of Representatives, and that, with a view to the exercise of this power, that House has a right to investigate the conduct of all public officers under the Government. This is cheerfully admitted. In such a case, the safety of the Republic would be the supreme law, and the power of the House in the pursuit of this object would penetrate into the most secret recesses of the Executive Departments. It could command the attendance of any and every agent of the Government, and convert them to undress all papers. public or a construction of the clerk.)

With respect (if I may be allowed here to allude to it) to a speech that was made soon after in Baltimore upon the subject of a commercial treaty—

Mr. ADAMS interposed, and (Mr. I. yielding) requested of the gentleman to produce the letter which he had insisted was addressed to him (Mr. A.) by the Secretary of State at that time, proposing this appropriation.

Mr. INGERSOLL. I request of the gentleman from Massachusetts to produce the note which he announced in the entry as (I think) a written communication. What are the word of the clerk of the conduct of the power record of the journal was again. cret recesses of the Executive Departments. It could command the attendance of any and every agent of the Government, and compel them to produce all papers, public or private, official or unofficial, and to testify on oath to all facts within their knowledge. But even in a case of that kind they would adopt all wise precautions to prevent the exposure of all such matters, the publication of which might injuriously affect the public interest, except so far as this might be necessary to accomplish the great ends of public justice. If the House of Representatives, as the grand inquest of the nation, should at any time have reason to believe that there has been malversation in office by an improper use or application of the

should at any time have reason to believe that there has been abouted the properties of the presentatives, as the grand inquest of the nation, should at any time have reason to believe that there has been individually the properties of the Executive beaufied be subject to the inspection and control of a committee of their body, and every facility in the power of the Executive beaufied. The experience of every anison on earth has demonstrated that emergencies may arise in which it becomes absolutely the committee of their publicity. Some Overnments have very large amounts at indicating the properties of the public goods or the public goods or the public goods or the public control of the

The remaining formation for the contraction of the contract of

Present, Adams, Cushing, Everett, Granger, Caruthers, Meriwether, Holmes.

Meeting called by the chairman yesterday. He was unable to notify Mr. Stuart; Mr. Shepperdabsent from indisposition. Resolutions in relation to the Oregon territory of the Legislatures of Missouri and of Illinois were read: with reference to which, and to a communication from the Secretary of State to Mr. Cushing and Mr. Adams, of the wish of the President of the United States to institute a special mission to Great Britain—

of the United States to institute a special mission to Great Britain—

The cuairman moved that he be instructed to move in the House, as an amendment to the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill now under consideration in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, an appropriation of §18,000 for outfit and salary of a special Envoy Extraordinary to Great Britain, if the President should deem it necessary or expedient to Institute such a mission.

On this motion, Adams, Cushing, Holmes, voted ay.

Everett, Granger, Caruthers, Meriwether, voted nay.

But two members of the committee being absent, the final vote was postponed to the meeting on Tuesday next.

Resolutions of the Legislature of Alabama, in favor of the annexation of Texas to this Union, and sundry petitions against that measure, referred to this committee, being considered, Mr. Adams moved that the chairman be instructed to report thereon to the House the following resolutions.

1845. Tuesday, 28 February.

1843. TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY. Present, Adams Cuching, Everett, Granger, Stuart, Shepperd, Meriwether, Holmes, Caruthers—all the members.

The quastion of moving an appropriation for an outfit and salary for a special mission to Great Britain was decided in the

Ay—Adams, Holmes, Cushing. Ay—Adams, Holmes, Cushing. Nay—Everett, Granger, Shepperd, Stuart, Caruthers, Meri-

ether.
Adjourned to Thursday, 2d March, at 9 A. M.

arise, it would be my duty to assume the responsibility devolved on me by law.

During my administration, all expenditures for contingent expenses of foreign intercourse, in which the accounts have been closed, have been settled upon regular vouchers, as all With respect (if I may be allowed here to allude to it) to